www.SBCounty.gov



County Administrative Office Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

February 14, 2017

The Honorable Jay Obernolte California State Assembly State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: AB 2 (Obernolte) – as introduced December 5, 2016 – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblyman Obernolte:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 2, legislation that would add peace officers to the "hate crime" statute in order to deter the recent outbreak of intentional targeting of public safety officers. This bill would only apply to crimes against officers when the act was committed solely because of their status as a peace officer.

As you are aware, over the last year there has been a tremendous increase in violence against police officers. In fact, there was a 78% spike in firearms-related fatalities against officers in the first half of 2016 compared to the year before. Every single day, our public safety officers place themselves in harm's way to protect our neighborhoods. AB 2 would ensure permit additional criminal penalties if a crime specifically targets a victim because they are a peace officer.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 2. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jeandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert Lovingood Board of Supervisors Chairman First District Supervisors County of San Bernardino

c: San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation